

The Sketch
Christmas
Number





A Great Toffee with a Great Reputation

To millions of little boys and girls the chief delight of Christmas-time is to revel to their hearts' desire in an abundance of SHARP'S SUPER-KREEM TOFFEE. Super-Kreem, with its rich, creamy flavour, is made to give delight—but not delight alone; it is a pure, wholesome food—

8^D a nourishing, sustaining addition to the daily diet. Give yourself, your friends, and the little ones the King of All Sweets—buy plenty of Super-Kreem.

per
 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb.



By
Appointment to H.M.
Queen Alexandra

Sold loose by weight, or in 4-lb. decorated tins; also sold in 1/-, 1/6, and 2/9 tins. If unobtainable in your district, kindly send p.c., giving name of your confectioner.

E. SHARP & SONS, LTD., MAIDSTONE.

"It Speaks for Itself."

**SHARP'S
SUPER-KREEM
TOFFEE**





Women who use Pond's

The Town Girl

MANY foes beset the town girl's complexion—fog and grime as well as all the elements—making the use of Pond's Vanishing Cream and Pond's Cold Cream most necessary. Pond's Creams never promote the growth of hair.

POND'S VANISHING CREAM disappears instantly into the skin, making it delightfully smooth, soft and supple. Pond's is an invaluable protective. It is non-sticky and non-greasy, and leaves no trace of use save the delicate fragrance of Jacqueminot roses.

POND'S COLD CREAM should be gently massaged into the skin each night on retiring. It effectively cleanses the pores, ridding them of the impurities they have gathered during the day and, because it supplements the natural oil of the skin, aids in the prevention and obliteration of lines and wrinkles.

"TO SOOTHE AND SMOOTH YOUR SKIN."

Both Creams of all chemists and stores in handsome opal jars 1/3 and 2/6, also collapsible tubes 7d. (handbag size) and 1/-.

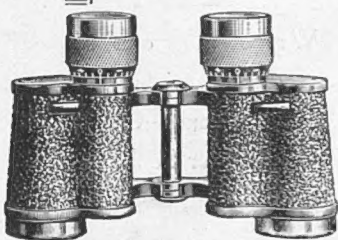
Pond's Cold Cream and Vanishing Cream

POND'S EXTRACT CO. (Dept. 86), 71, Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

Imitations come and go, but the

ZEISS

Prism Glass invariably remains the sole choice. The New Model Telex and Telexem embody ideal Christmas Gifts.



Full particulars of these and 30 other types, with name of nearest dealer who stocks the genuine new Zeiss Glasses, from the Distributors.

J. W. ATHA & CO. (Dept. T.1.),
8, Southampton Row,
LONDON, - - - W.C. 1.

WOOLLANDS

XMAS BAZAAR NOW OPEN.

An interesting and abundant selection of choice novelties to suit all tastes.

XMAS BOOK
POST FREE.



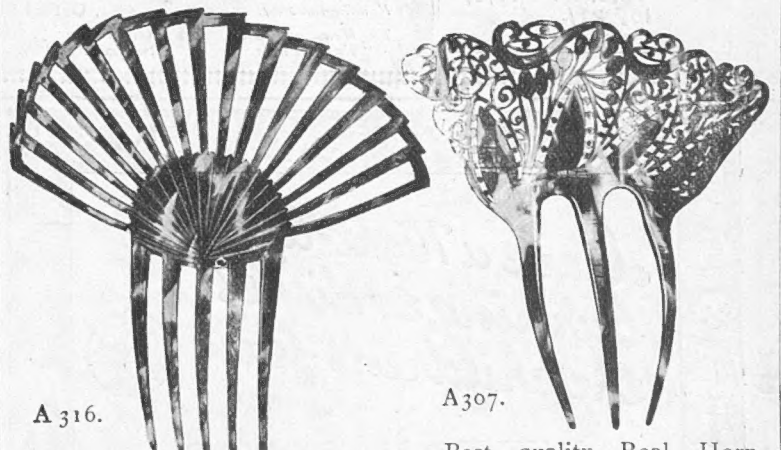
F7
Favourite "COTY" Perfumes in New Boxes.
Chypre 22/- and 42/-, Lilas Blanc 17/9 and 33/-,
Rose Jacqueminot 19/- and 22/-,
L'Origan, Muguet, Lior, 19/- and 25/-,
Paris 16/6 only.

F9
COTY'S Toilet Powder in all Perfumes as listed under F7, in Naturelle or Rachael, 4/6.
Small Box in compact form for wristbag, 2/6.

PERFUMES AS PRESENTS.



Perfume Houbigant "IDEAL" in small-size bottle, 14/- and 23/3.
Quelque Fleurs, 14/9 and 24/6. Premier Mai, 13/- and 20/9.
Mon Boudoir, 16/- and 24/6. Un Peu d'Ambre, 14/9 and 24/6.
Temps des Lilas, 11/3 and 17/9 per bottle.



A 316.

A 307.

Best quality Real Horn Non-inflammable Fan-shape Spanish Comb for present wear. A pleasing gift. Price 8/6 each.

Best quality Real Horn Non-inflammable Fancy Back Comb. An ideal gift for day or evening wear. Price 14/6 each.

WOOLLAND BROS., Ltd., Knightsbridge, LONDON, S.W. 1



CARTERS

(J. & A. CARTER) LTD.

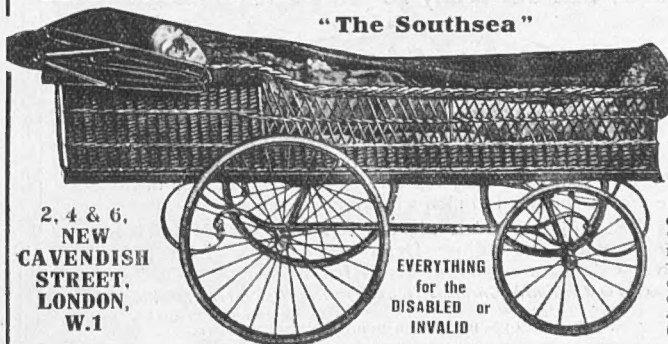
Telegrams: Bathchair, Wesdo, London.

Telephone: Langham 1040

"The Alleviation of Human Pain."

SPINAL CARRIAGES

"The Southsea"



Wicker and Carriage built, of distinctive construction and unexampled durability.

These Carriages are illustrated in Sectional Catalogue No. 3. If further interested, please ask for "MODERN COMFORT FURNITURE," the standard work of reference for all Invalids and Comfort Lovers (600 Illustrations).

EVERYTHING
for the
DISABLED or
INVALID

2, 4 & 6,
NEW
CAVENDISH
STREET,
LONDON,
W. 1



The Perfumes

TEA ROSE

ROSE GERANIUM

ENGLISH VIOLETS

ROMAN HYACINTH

MALMAISON



By Appointment to
H.M. THE KING

J. Floris
PERFUMER

89. JERMYN STREET,
LONDON S.W. 1

The "BRITANNIC" EXPANDING WATCH BRACELET



THE QUEEN OF
WATCH BRACELETS

The "Britannic" Expanding Bracelet has made an unrivalled world reputation for its durability and the charm of its designs.

The springs will be renewed free of charge any time during five years, through any jeweller.

May be seen at all good class jewellers, complete with watches, in various styles. Also "Britannic" Expanding Bands alone with hooks, to replace straps.

See the name "Britannic" inside the bracelet.

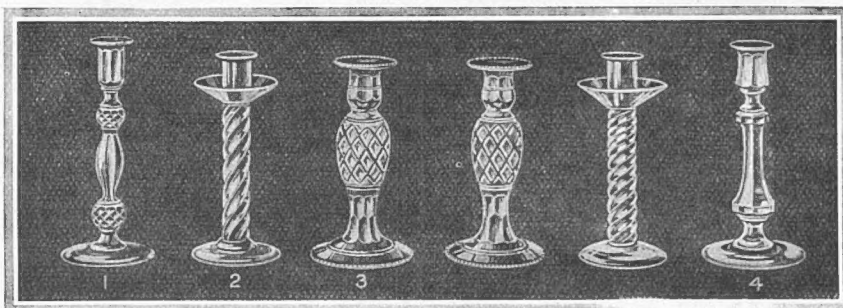
SOANE & SMITH Limited

No. 1. The Bourduline
Heavy Cut Crystal—
7½" 12/6, 9" 17/6,
10½" 21/- each.

No. 2. The Jacobean
Antique Twisted Stem
English Crystal—
6½" 13/6, 8" 18/6,
10" 25/-, 12" 37/6 each.

No. 3. St. James Heavy
Cut Crystal diamond—
6" 16/6, 8" 30/-,
10" 45/- each.

No. 4. The Montpelier
Heavy Cut Crystal—
7½" 12/6, 9" 17/6,
10½" 21/- each.



FINEST CRYSTAL CANDLESTICKS.

Exclusive to SOANE & SMITH, Ltd.
462, Oxford Street, London, W.1.

Telephone :
Paddington 2634.
The House of F.C.G.
"Toby" Fame.

Orders over £1 Carriage Paid in England,
Scotland and Wales. Packages Extra.

Telegrams :
"Earthenwedo, London"
"The Specialité House
of Originalities."

Samples on approval.

Write for other
special illustrations of
Pottery and Glass
for Town or Country.

Leave a Night-light
burning, to dispel
the children's fears

PRICE'S
NIGHT LIGHTS

A Doctor on Infant Feeding

Writing on Infant Feeding, one Doctor says that he has prescribed Benger's Food for Infants ever since it was introduced; that was nearly 40 years ago.

BENGER'S
Food

Few Foods have so withstood the test of time, but Benger's Food has spread throughout the world by the constant recommendation of those who have used it and medical men who know its value.

Benger's Food differs from all other Infant Foods in being specially prepared to adjust fresh cow's milk or milk and water to the delicate digestion of an infant.

Benger's Food is sold in Tins by Chemists, etc., everywhere. Prices 1/4, 2/3, 4/- & 8/6.
BENGER'S FOOD, LTD., Other Works, MANCHESTER.
NEW YORK (U.S.A.) 90, Beekman St. SYDNEY (N.S.W.) 117, Pitt St.

Two wonderful Coats you cannot obtain elsewhere

Both Ready for Wear in YOUR size, or Made to Measure, and readily forwarded on approval.

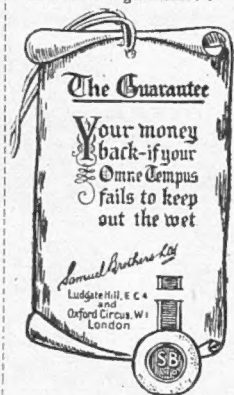
The "Omne Tempus" Coat is the only real Winter Raincoat, being made of a secretly-processed Covert Whipcord in a number of shades. It is the only raincoat in existence bearing a printed, legally-binding guarantee to keep out the rain under any conditions.

4½ Gns.



The "OMNE TEMPUS" COAT

guaranteed rainproof without rubber.
Here's the guarantee:—



The "KOZILYTE" COAT.

made of the new "Kozilyte" Warmth-without-weight Fabric.

The "Kozilyte" Coat novelty lies in the cloth, a new weave—"a lamb's fleece on a stocking foundation"—a soft, fleecy, front surface with a crisp, close-woven back surface.

It saves you 24 ozs. of superfluous weight, yet is ideally warm; you can wear it from October to May; it is very durable in wear, and is exquisitely tailored.

5 Gns.

Sole Makers and Proprietors:

Samuel Brothers LTD

UNIVERSAL OUTFITTERS.

OXFORD CIRCUS, W.1
(Almost adjoining Tube Station)

Established 1830.
LONDON
and
26, Guildhall St., Folkestone

LUDGATE HILL, E.C.4
(Near St. Paul's).



Eiderscutum

For Lighter and Warmer Autumn—Winter Wraps.

Moss-like in texture for lightness; of virgin wool for warmth, softness and fixity of colours. Varying styles—fixed prices.

£8.8.0

Single-breasted.

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Double-breasted.

Ready-to-wear or to order.

Ladies' Coats same prices.

Eiderscutum Coats sent on approbation against remittance, or London Trade Reference.

Mention of "The Sketch" will bring patterns etc., by return mail.

SOLE MAKERS:

Aquascutum Ltd.

100 REGENT ST.,
LONDON, W.1.

Renowned for weatherproofs since 1851.



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XMAS BAZAAR NOW OPEN

*Gifts for all—Practical,
Amusing and Novel, and
all the lowest price
for the best.*



O. 59.—Dainty Little Wrap in White Coney, as sketch, or Grey Lamb; trimmed Silk Fringe. Most useful for Day or Evening wear Price **10½ Gns.**

O. 51.—A Novel "Bolster" Moleskin Tie, made quite soft in double Fur Price **9½ Gns.**
Pillow Muff to match, as sketch **8½ Gns.**



O. B. 28.—Marabout Feather Scarf, 10 ins. wide, 58 ins. in length. In Black, Mole, Nigger Price **39/6**

O. B. 27.—"Ulvik" Marabout Feather Coatee, suitable for all occasions. Beautifully made and lined throughout with Silk In Nigger, Mole, Black. Price **10½ Gns.**

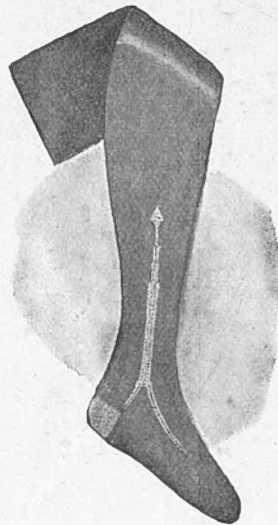
WOOLLAND BROS.,
LTD.,
Knightsbridge, London, SW1

Dressing the Legs.

More than stockings are those delicate fine meshed creations of Lefebure, Paris. Some delicately traced with design—and every pair of superb silk quality.

*They take away that
"stockinged" look.*

HOW MANY PAIRS?



SILK STOCKINGS,
Extremely smart & new.
Exceedingly fine mesh,
open-work lace clocks
in four-branch design.
Black, White, Colours.
27/6

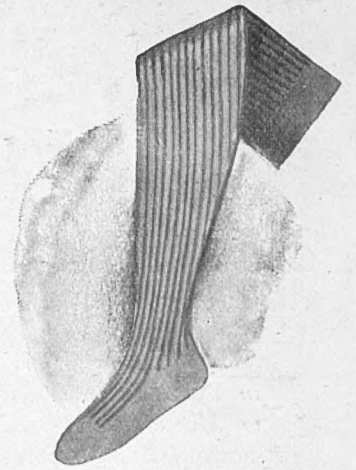
SILK STOCKINGS,
Grade 44.
Superior silk ... **31/-**
Very fine mesh... **36/-**
Extra fine light weight
40/-

SILK STOCKINGS
Open ribbed,
22/6
Black, White and
Colours
(see sketch).

**FINE THREAD
STOCKINGS**
Open ribbed,
8/11
In White only
(see sketch).

*Please send your size and enclose cheque
with order.*

S. LEFEBURE,
5, Faubourg Saint-Honoré 5, PARIS.



Your Christmas Greetings, your New Year remembrances—let FLEURS D'AMOUR express them for you. This rich perfume of intriguing charm and fresh flower fragrance is distinct from all others and will reflect your good taste and infuse into your wishes the sincerity and tenderness you desire.

Its discreet odour is carried throughout most Toilet aids; soaps, powders, etc. Perfume 21/-, obtainable from all high-class Chemists, Drapers, Hairdressers and Stores.

FLEURS D'AMOUR
(By ROGER & GALLET in PARIS.)



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You will best appreciate the Specialities of Roger & Gallet by sending for their miniature sample box of Fleurs d'Amour Perfume and Powder, Eau de Cologne, &c. Enclose 1/- Postal Order to Roger & Gallet (London) Ltd., Dept. 11, 14, Poland Street, W.1.



The Maximum of Perfection in Permanent Hair Waving achieved by us.

T. VASCO LTD

16, Dover Street, Piccadilly, LONDON, W.

The Premier Establishment in the World for the care of ladies' hair, wish to inform ladies that at their establishment you will receive the most skilled attention from expert artists (male) and unrelenting supervision from Mons. Vasco and his sub-managers.

SPECIALITIES:

Permanent Hair Waving—20 Machines

Ordinary Hair Waving and Dressing
Hair Tinting Hair Treatment, Shampoos, etc.
Accommodation for 25 Ladies.

*Hair work guaranteed unequalled—
best fitting, best hair, best workmanship.*

We strongly recommend ZEPHYR as a colouring of the highest grade, rapid and permanent. If you need a Tinting preparation USE in future "ZEPHYR," the most marvellous hair colouring ever produced—MADE in 29 SHADES. Send sample of colour required, with your order. Sold at 13/6 post free.

GOOCHS VOGUE & VALUE

What Little Maid could fail to be happy and charming in this exquisitely dainty Gooch frock? Other designs, equally as fascinating and inexpensive, await your inspection at Goochs.



Charming Frock in Shot Gold Taffeta. This model is made to order in any colouring in our own workrooms. First size 26 ins. Price ... **72/-**
Rising 2/6 each size larger.

"Everything
for the
Little Folk."

GOOCHS

BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W. 3.

Tube Station:
Knightsbridge.

*Phone: Kens. 5100.

XMAS PRESENTS

Nothing is more acceptable to a lady than a present of Real Lace. Try it this year.

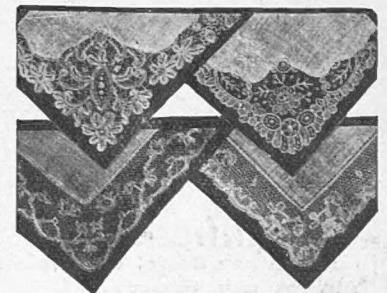


Modesty Jumper Slip Fronts
in various Real Laces, from 9/6
The Set, Collar and Slip 45/-

Real Lace Collars in
the newest shape 16/6
to 7 Gns.

The new Lace Berthes
from 70/- to 15 Gns.

**Lengths of Antique and
Modern Lace**, from 25/-



Real Lace Handkerchiefs
from 5/- to 50/- each.

3 Lace Handkerchiefs in a
pretty Satin Box for 30/-

Fine Embroidered Handkerchiefs 6 for 25/- to 30/-,
or single ones from 2/6 each.

Selections sent on approval.

Pieces of beautiful Lace for
Lingerie and Baby Linen. Lengths
from 7/6 to £5.

Selection of anything sent on approval.

We supply Ladies' Underwear and Baby Garments ready made or to order, or supply all the materials to make them at home. See our Unique Pattern Book of Embroideries, Laces and Materials, sent on application.

P. STEINMANN & CO., 185-186 Piccadilly, London, W.1

HEALTH & BEAUTY.

It is a woman's duty to always look and feel her very best.

Why then let the signs of neglect, age or ill-health spoil health and Beauty when a beautiful skin, bright, clear eyes and youthful charm and contours can be so easily secured? Ganesh Beauty Culture is safe, sure, strongly recommended by the Medical Profession and under Royal Patronage. Hundreds of genuine Testimonials received from all over the world.

Ganesh Chin Strap restores lost contours and cures double chins 21/6 and 25/6.



Write, call or 'phone for New Free Booklet, "Ganesh Health and Beauty."

GANESH PREPARATIONS for use at Home.

GANESH EASTERN OIL is invaluable as a beautifier—it builds up the foundation of beauty by supplying the exhausted skin tissue with new life and braces up the relaxed muscles into correct position. Absolutely removes lines, wrinkles, hollows, etc. 5/6, 10/6, 21/6 and 30/6. (9d. postage).

GANESH DIABLE SKIN TONIC strengthens, tones and whitens the skin, enables it to withstand hot rooms and all climatic changes. Invaluable for loose and flabby skins. Excellent wash- tonic for the eyes and eyelids. 6/6, 9/6, 12/6 and 24/- sizes. (9d. postage).

GANESH REDUCING SALTINA is wonderfully effective, even in the most obstinate cases of obesity. The usual food may be taken during treatment, but a rapid decrease in weight will nevertheless be observed, while the fleshy parts recover their elasticity and firmness. Price 1/6 per box, or 16/- per dozen boxes (post free). A box must be added to each bath.

MRS. E. ADAIR

92, NEW BOND STREET - - - LONDON, W.1.

'Phone: Mayfair 3212.

PARIS and NEW YORK.



Every Mother should remember

that the late hours and excitement of Xmas are a frequent predisposing cause of chill, and that Xmas itself marks the first week of the Winter season, which commences on the 21st. The protection of CHILPRUFE is therefore now particularly necessary as the surest safeguard against all risks of cold and damp.

CHILPRUFE RECD for CHILDREN

CHILPRUFE is all PURE WOOL finished by a secret process. This not only renders CHILPRUFE wonderfully protective, but gives to it a charming softness and daintiness.

CHILPRUFE for LADIES

CHILPRUFE is also made in a full range of undergarments and night attire for ladies of exactly the same beautiful material as the famous CHILPRUFE for CHILDREN.

CHILPRUFE for MEN also

The luxury of CHILPRUFE UNDERWEAR is now extended to men. Its outstanding qualities, backed by the hearty recommendation of the womenfolk, assure its success.

Ask your Draper or write direct for a copy of the NEW CHILPRUFE PRICE LIST. It is beautifully illustrated, and forms a complete guide to the selection of children's underwear.

If unable to obtain Chilprufe write direct for address of nearest Agent.

THE CHILPRUFE MANFG. CO.
(John A. Bolton, M.I.H., Proprietor)
LEICESTER.



Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne

The Best Remedy known for
COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS,

A true palliative in Checks and arrests
GOUT, RHEUMATISM, FEVER, CROUP,
NEURALGIA, TOOTHACHE. AGUE.

Acts like a charm in
DIARRHŒA, COLIC,
and other Bowel Complaints.

Always ask for a
"DR. COLLIS BROWNE."

THERE IS
NO
SUBSTITUTE

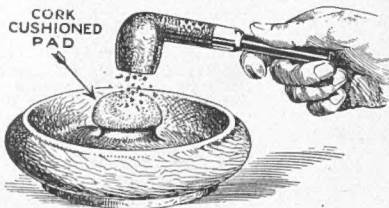
Of all
Chemists,
1/3, 3/-



Give him one for Xmas.

**"Knock
Knobby"**

ASH BOWL



IT IS of ample size and cannot tip.

IT IS provided with a cork cushioned pad to prevent damage to the pipe.

IT IS made in OAK at 7/6 and KOKO WOOD at 5/6.

READY PACKED FOR POST.

Obtainable from all Stores and Dealers or direct from

KNOCK KNOBBY ASH BOWL CO.,

34, Chesterton Road, CAMBRIDGE.

Xmas Gifts**WILKINSON****SWORD STEEL RAZORS & SAFETY SHAVES**

The Wilkinson New Model Safety Shaver is the very latest thing in Safety Razors. Special features are:

1. Hollow ground, hand forged sword steel blades.
2. A Ratchet that enables the head of the shaver to be adjusted to suit the particular style of the user.
3. Blades are quickly released by a Thumbpress; cleaning is very simple.
4. The Roller Guard feeds the lather on to the cutting edge and is beautifully smooth to the face.

The set complete with Stropping Handle and 7 hollow ground sword steel blades, each etched with a day of the week, contained in strong, neat Walnut case or Teak case for tropical climates

A combination set as above, together with new Automatic Stropping Machine

30/-**45/-**

Wilkinson Sword Steel Razors, hardened and tempered by their special process (fully hollow ground).

The prices of our best cases are:

2 Razors	... £1 9 6
3 "	... £2 5 0
4 "	... £2 17 6
7 "	... £4 15 0

Ivory Handles 4/6 per razor extra.

SOLD EVERYWHERE

THE WILKINSON SWORD CO., Ltd.,
53, PALL MALL, LONDON, S.W.1

Gun, Sword and Equipment Makers
T. H. RANDOLPH, Managing Director.

Razor Manufacturers
Works: ACTON, W.4

"Wilkinson"

The name
that counts
in the
Razor World

1822

One Hundred Years of Hat-making

1922**HENRY HEATH LTD**

By Appointment

To His Majesty the King & H.R.H. the Prince of Wales

**THE "HEATHER"
HAT**

HENRY HEATH is responsible for this most serviceable model, framed on the shape of their celebrated "Sans Souci" hat. This hat is made in a slightly heavier weight brushed fur felt, and is finished with a row of even stitching from crown to brim, and for those who prefer a heavier weight hat it is all that could be desired. A most useful hat for all occasions, and stocked in navy, champagne, lemon, egg blue, cherry, mauve, rose, jade, myrtle, light green, grey, tabac, castor, carbon, gold, rust, royal, cerise, white and black.

Price **30/-**

The name of
our nearest
Provincial
Agent can be
had upon
application.

105-107-109 OXFORD ST. W.

A selection
of Hats will
be forwarded
upon request.

KENNETH DURWARD

The Premier House for Country, Sporting,
Travelling and Motor Garments.

LIMITED



A Selection
of
OVERCOATS

for the Moors,
Golfing, Shoot-
ing, and Travel-
ling Wear.

Ready for Immediate
Wear or to Order.

From **7 Guineas**

**Sporting and
Golfing Jackets**

In all sizes, colours
and textures. Ready
for Immediate Wear
or to Order.

From **5 Guineas**

Unrivalled Selection
of
**Cheviots, Lovats,
and Scotch and
Irish Homespuns,
Etc., for our famous
GOLFING SUITS.**

From **8 Guineas**



THE K.D. SAC SUIT.

Golfers who prefer the jacket
without belt will find this a most
comfortable and smart suit.

HAND-KNITTED HOSE
to harmonise with all materials
A SPECIALITY

THE D.B. "AINTREE."
Absolutely the most distinguished-looking and
comfortable Travelling Coat extant. Our new
Blanket Cloth and Fleece assure luxurious warmth
and perfect comfort with the minimum of weight.

ULSTER HOUSE, CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W.1

**Give her
the moon
for Xmas**

If not the moon, the next
thing to it—a Dunhill
Lytup handbag!

As one opens the clasp,
a tiny electric light switches
on and reveals all those
little feminine odd- come-
shorts that lurk in the dark
corners of the bag—and
there is a neat little
mirror for nose-powdering
purposes too.

What could be handier in
the theatre or in the taxi? Give
her one for Christmas and see
how her eyes will shine when
she opens it.

**DUNHILL'S
LYTUP
HANDBAGS**

Patent No. 183773/21.

Sole Manufacturer

ALFRED DUNHILL, 50 Jermyn Street,
S.W.1.



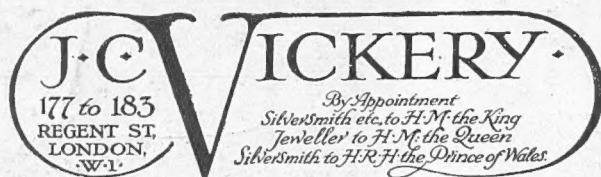
73/6



63/-

Some bags recently in
stock. The number of
each design made is
limited, and exact repe-
titions cannot be pro-
mised, but if customers
ordering by post will
describe their require-
ments, their orders will
have careful attention.

In assorted designs of
brocade, silk, satin,
velvet and leather, with
real or imitation tortoise-
shell or ivory frames and
silk linings. The bat-
teries, which are quite
harmless, can be re-
placed at any Store.

Xmas
GiftsXmas
GiftsWhat is your Lucky
Number?Vickery's
Popular Wristlets.Please
send your
orders early as the
demand is very large.Your "Lucky Number" in Diamonds in White Enamel Circle. Double
Number, £8 10 0. Single Number, £5 10 0Any Initial in Diamonds in Enamel border, £3 15 6. Pearl Initials,
£2 5 6.Diamond Lucky Money Spider in Enamel border, £5 15 0, and
many other designs.*J. C. Vickery is showing a wonderful Collection of Useful
Novelties for Xmas and invites the favour of a visit, or
illustrated Catalogue sent post free.*"BRIGG"
UMBRELLAS
&
WALKING STICKSBRIGG & SONS
MANUFACTURERS
23 St. James's Street
— LONDON —
33 Avenue de l'Opera
— PARIS —

Established 1836.



SANATOGEN

(The True Tonic Food)

offers you New Health and Energy
for the coming New Year

NOW is the time to make good
resolutions for 1923!

Determine to take Sanatogen regularly from to-day onwards. By the first of January—perhaps earlier—you will have begun to experience the general revivifying effects of that high nervous tone which Sanatogen unfailingly produces.

So you will start the New Year well—feeling fit and fresh to keep other good resolutions—and encouraged to persevere with Sanatogen until it has accomplished that lasting renewal of health and energy which it offers you.

What SANATOGEN will do for you in Nineteen - Twenty - Three

Sanatogen is no magic nostrum—neither does it promise the miracles of rejuvenation sometimes claimed for morning aperients, etc.

What it does promise and perform is a steady, gradual, cumulative betterment of health and nerve power—as evidenced by many years' clinical results which have been recorded by over 24,000 doctors, including men of the highest standing and authority. It tones and invigorates the nerves controlling the stomach, bowels and digestive organs—so that appetite and nutrition improve, ordinary food is better

assimilated, the excretory functions are more regular, and weight increases without accumulation of fat.

Also, it ensures a progressive increase of vitality in the nerve cells, which energises both brain and body without harmful stimulation or reaction, improves muscular tone, and permanently benefits the whole organism by natural physiological means.

Buy a tin *now* while the impulse is fresh in your mind! At 2/3 to 10/9 per tin, Sanatogen costs you slightly less than fivepence per day. But be sure you get the genuine product, bearing our name and address on the label—not one of the worthless counterfeits described as "replacing" Sanatogen.

GENATOSAN LTD., Loughborough.

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All our Furs are of a particularly reliable character. They are made on the premises under thoroughly hygienic conditions by our own highly skilled furriers from skins that we can recommend with every confidence. The fit, shape and finish are invariably excellent. The prices are the lowest possible compatible with the quality of the skins used.



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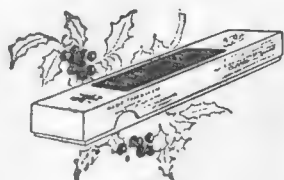
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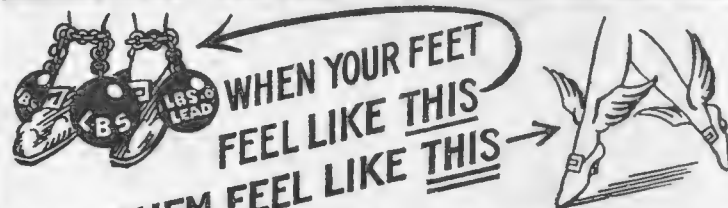
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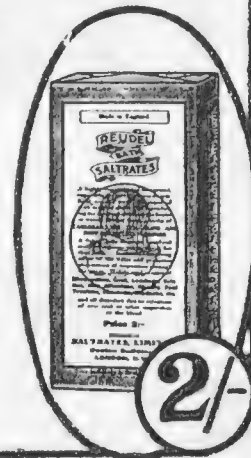
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"We are thirsty men," said Tarlyon, and pushed Antony up the hall. Antony loved to prolong impressive moments—when *he* thought them impressive.

III.

"Champagne is indicated," said Antony; and that indication led us to the dining-room—a long, oak-panelled room at the back of the house. The curtains were not drawn across the two French windows, which gave out to a lawn sloping carelessly down to the water of Regent's Park; and in the second in which Antony fumbled for the electric switch the dark shapes of the trees looked like the van of an impenetrable forest.

"Didn't you say something about an appointment?" Tarlyon asked vaguely, as Antony ravished the wire off a bottle.

"Did I?" He looked up at us from his business, very thoughtfully. "Oh, did I?"

"Pop!" said the champagne cork.

We drank, and Antony looked at his wrist-watch.

"Damn!" he said. "It's stopped."

"The time being just 11.25," I helped him.

"Thanks," said Antony, very mild, very thoughtful. "Excuse me a moment, will you?" And he strode across the room to the folding doors which led to Roger's old library and card-room. He closed the door behind him, but it did not catch, swung open a few inches. No light filled the dark vertical space.

"Never known him so polite before," I muttered.

"He's absent-minded," said Tarlyon, looking thoughtfully at the dark space.

"What I want to know," he whispered, "is what he's doing in there in the dark?"

"Keeping his appointment," I suggested facetiously.

Tarlyon looked from the door to me.

"Poor devil!" he said softly. I thought he was pitying me for my wit, of which I was never very proud.

He put down his empty glass, dug his hands into his pockets, and lounged to the folding-doors. I never knew a man who could walk so casually as Tarlyon: you never

expected him to get anywhere, but he always got there before you expected him to.

He kicked the slightly open door a little wider with the tip of his shoe. I was just behind his shoulder.

"Antony!" he called softly.

From the light in which we stood the library was a pit of darkness. Nothing moved in the pit. There was no sound.

"He's not there," I whispered, and I wondered why I whispered.

"Can you smell anything?" a hoarse voice suddenly asked from the darkness.

Tarlyon instantly lounged into the black room. But, somehow, I didn't feel called upon to follow. I leant against the door.

Deeply set in the darkness I could at last make out the faintly white patch which must be Antony's

shirt-front; and I wondered what tomfoolery he was up to now, asking stupid questions in a startling voice out of a poisonously dark room. I could smell nothing at all, and didn't expect to.

"What kind of a smell?" Tarlyon asked—in a reasonable tone. He stood just within the door, his back to me.

"Can you smell *nothing* at all?" the hoarse, subdued voice asked again. "But, of course, it's very faint now."

Tarlyon put up his nose and sniffed. I sniffed. More than faint it was, I thought.

"Been smoking?" Tarlyon asked, and he sniffed again.

"No," came a whisper.

"Oh," said Tarlyon. This was lunatic talk, and I was just about to say so when Antony asked sharply—

"Why did you ask?"

"I thought I smelt smoke," said Tarlyon. "Might be cigarette smoke."

"It is," I snapped, for I was smoking a Turkish cigarette just behind his ear.

"You blasted fool!"

said Antony—and with such contempt behind it that from being bored I got annoyed. I stretched out my hand on the inside of the library door and switched on the light.

"Turn that out, you fool!" came a frantic roar, and I had a vision of a red giant murdering the distance between us. I've never thanked God for anything so much as for



"Turn that out, you fool!" came a frantic roar.



Tarlyon cried out as though he had made a discovery.

having directed the body of George Tarlyon to be standing between Red Antony and myself. I turned off the light quick enough.

"Steady, Antony, steady!" said Tarlyon.



Red Antony was never what you might call a good host . . . to-night he was morose.

"Oh, go to hell!" growled Antony.

I thought to myself that we couldn't be very far from it at the moment. But the spell, or smell, it seemed, was broken. I was thankful for that, anyway.

Back in the lighted dining-room Antony emptied his glass, and grinned at me rather shamefacedly.

"Sorry, old boy," he said. I grinned back, as though I had enjoyed it.

Tarlyon asked suddenly—

"Have you got a spare bed-room for me, Antony?"

I stared, Antony stared. Then Antony smiled, and never before had I seen him smile quite like that.

"Thank you, George," he said softly. "Now, that's really a friendly action. But I'll be all right—you needn't worry."

Then he addressed me as well; I had never seen Antony so reasonable.

"Come to dinner here to-morrow night," he begged.

"Both of you. I can give you quite a good dinner." He seemed very earnest, looking from one to the other of us. I was going to say I was engaged, but Tarlyon answered quickly—

"Right, Antony." And because he looked at me in a certain way, I let it be.

IV.

In the taxi at last, Tarlyon said—

"Ralph, you risked your life by turning on that light, but you did a great service."

"What do you mean?"

"Didn't you see anything?"

I then lost my temper.

"No," I shouted. "I neither smelt anything in the

dark nor saw anything in the light, except that red lunatic charging at me."

"He was only preserving his illusion," Tarlyon said mildly. "Didn't you see, in that second of light, the open desk just by us, beside the door?"

"I saw nothing but Antony, but quite enough of him."

"Pity. If you had seen the desk, you would have seen a telephone overturned on it, the receiver hanging down, and a revolver on the floor."

This was getting serious. I struck a match and examined Tarlyon's face. He was not smiling.

"Fact," he assured me. "You would have seen the desk just as it was after Roger Poole had shot himself at it."

"You don't mean—"

"I mean, old boy, that Antony has gone and put everything back exactly as he last saw it in Roger's library. Roger, Roger's wife, Antony and another fellow were in the dining-room. The telephone-bell rang in the library, and Roger went to answer it, telling Antony to come with him. He didn't turn on the light in the library. The telephone told Roger that the police were after him. And the two in the dining-room heard Roger telling Antony what he thought of him as a man and brother, then they heard a shot; and when they got to the door and switched on the light, they saw Roger dead at the desk and Antony standing where he was standing to-night. Antony went out by the window into the garden—and he has reconstructed the scene exactly as he last saw it, even to a dummy telephone and a revolver. In fact, everything is there except Roger. Silly, isn't it?"

Silly was not the word. "But why, why?"

"That's what I want to find out," said Tarlyon. "Antony is playing some sort of a game with himself, and he's frightening himself to death in doing it. He always was a superstitious ass. Giants usually are, somehow—perhaps because, having nothing physical to fear, they fear the psychic. I'll bet he goes into that library every night at the same time—Roger shot himself at about twenty-five past eleven, by the way. Poor old Antony!"



She was the most strangely lovely woman I have ever seen.

"And what was all that nonsense about the smell?" I asked.

Tarlyon did not answer. At last he said—

The tragedy of those two brothers has something absurdly, fantastically reasonable about it. You see, Roger

[Continued overleaf.]

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was a year older and did all that Antony wanted to do, the fine and brilliant things, while poor Antony could do nothing but make a fool of himself, which he did only too well. Antony would have been a man of many accomplishments, for he's no fool, but for the fact that Roger was before him—so Antony thought. And Roger loved Antony, while Antony hated and admired and feared Roger. And at last, somehow or another, he managed to betray Roger. No one knows what that last moment held for those two—no one knows what lay behind the insults that Roger heaped on Antony at that final moment. But something seems to have stuck in Antony's mind and grown very big with years. I'm rather concerned for the poor devil, Ralph. He's still afraid of Roger. Or perhaps he feels that Roger left something unsaid which he must hear, and so he wants to recreate him."

It was as the taxi stopped at my door that Tarlyon cried out as though he had made a discovery: "Good God, of course!"

"Of course what?"

"Smoke, you fool! It was smoke!"

V.

What was our surprise, on entering the dining-room some minutes after nine o'clock the next evening—for Antony dined late—to see the table laid for four! And then a lady came in—a tall, dark young lady, a strange and unusual lady with a flash of very white teeth for a smile, and a gardenia alight on the wing of her sleek black hair! I am afraid Tarlyon and I must

have seemed very rude, for we were so surprised that we stared. The white teeth flashed at us. We bowed.

"My wife," said Antony. We bowed again. She was the sort of woman one bowed to. Antony's wife!

"Diavalen," said Antony abruptly, "this is Lord Tarlyon and Mr. Trevor."

Diavalen—Lady Poole!—said nothing. With that wonderful trick of flashing those wonderful teeth she didn't need to say anything.

"She's a Creole," said Antony, as we sat at the table. He said it as he might have said that she was an orange. Those white teeth flashed at me, and I smiled back, feeling like an ass. There didn't seem much to say about her being a Creole. . . .

I don't know how Tarlyon felt about it, but it took me some time to get my wind. "My wife," says Antony! Never a word nor a sign about being married—to that glorious, dark, alien creature with the flashing teeth and sleek black hair! Diavalen the Creole! Just like Red Antony to marry a Creole called Diavalen, and then spring her on to you with a "my wife." I remembered Antony once saying, years and years ago: "Never give away gratuitous

information, old boy." But there are limits. And one of them is to have a wife with flashing teeth, a gardenia in her hair, and a name like Diavalen, and then throw her in with the soup.

Red Antony was never what you might call a good host: not at the beginning of dinner, anyway. To-night he was morose. But Tarlyon talked—to Diavalen, Lady Poole. It would take more than a lovely Creole to baffle Tarlyon. He seemed to have inside information as to what were the subjects best calculated to excite interest in a Creole married to a morose English baronet with ginger hair. Diavalen did not talk. But one did not realise that she wasn't talking, for she was wonderfully expressive with her smiling, flashing, teeth. She seemed to have discovered the art of using teeth for something besides eating.

As Tarlyon talked to her she turned her face towards him, and of this I took advantage to stare at her face bit by bit. The perfection of that face was a challenge to a right-thinking man. "It is too small," I thought. But it was not too small. "It is too white," I thought. But it was not too white. For quite a long time I could not wrench my eyes away

from those flashing teeth and scarlet curling lips—they fascinated me. Her face was white, the gardenia in her hair looked almost yellow beside the whiteness of Diavalen's face; and I thought to myself that that white complexion was a considerable achievement, for I was sure her skin underneath was faintly, deliciously brown. It was a small face. It was a decoration, enchanting and unreal. And in



"Good-night, Diavalen"; but he said it as though he didn't care if her night was good or bad.

the decoration were painted in luminous paint two large black eyes; the eyelashes swept over them, often she half closed them—they were very lazy black eyes; and deep in them there was a sheen, as of a reflection of distant fire. I did not like the lady's eyes very much; I don't know why. But as to that sleek black hair in which lay a gardenia like a light in silken darkness—you felt that you simply must run your hand over that hair to see if it was as beautifully sleek and silky as it looked, and you wouldn't have minded betting that it was. She was the most strangely lovely woman I have ever seen. And she was the most silent.

Even Tarlyon was at last baffled by the silence of Diavalen. A silence fell. The teeth flashed at me, and I was just about to say something to her when Antony's voice hit the drum of my ear and I dropped my fork.

"I shouldn't trouble," said Antony. "She's dumb."

That is why I dropped my fork. The servant picked it up and gave me another. I made a considerable business of it, and then I ate furiously. Red Antony, vile Antony! I didn't look at Tarlyon. He was furious, I knew. He was a man who didn't take a very liberal view of jokes like that. But the worst of Antony was that he didn't care what view

(Continued overleaf.)

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anyone took; he just said the first thing that came into his mind.

If the dinner (which was excellent as to food and wine) had been a frost before, it was, naturally, not a howling success after that. The only thing to do was to pretend that Antony hadn't spoken. It seemed too silly to say to the lovely Creole: "Oh, I'm *so* sorry!" Poor Diavalen! But I couldn't pretend, I simply could not find anything to say which didn't need an answer. Just try being suddenly

only to read of the domestic history of Famous British Boxers and of seeing photographs of the wives, mothers and children of Famous British Boxers. He said that the whole idea of the Press was to impress on the public how gentle, amiable, and loving Famous British Boxers were in the home. He pointed out that the whole trouble lay in the fact that Famous British Boxers were too damned gentle, amiable, and loving in the ring. In fact, Antony, having put the lid on his wife, had woken up.



I saw the thing sitting squat in the corner—the black thing with white teeth flashing in a white face, and a gardenia in her hair.

planted with a dumb woman and see if conversation flows naturally from you.

Tarlyon and Antony talked about English heavyweight boxers. Antony was himself a super-heavyweight, and seemed to have a poor opinion of English heavyweights. He wanted to know whether their weight was calculated by the noise they made on being smitten to the ground in the first round. He said that he was tired of opening a newspaper

Then, at last, Diavalen rose, and we rose. I rushed to the door and held it open. Her teeth flashed at Tarlyon, and he bowed like a courtier. As she passed Antony, he said, "Good-night, Diavalen"; but he said it as though he didn't care if her night was good or bad. As she passed Antony, she gave him a look out of her large, black eyes. I was glad I did not know what that look said, but Antony probably deserved it. "Good-night, Lady Poole," I said; teeth

[Continued overleaf.]



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CIGARETTES

flashed at me, a touch of Chypre hovered faintly, and Diavalen was gone.

"Heavens, she's lovely!" I whispered, as I joined them at the table.

Tarlyon's fingers played with the stem of his port-glass.

"Would you mind explaining, Antony," he asked dangerously, "why you chose that infamous way of telling us that your wife was—well, not quite like the rest of us?" There was, I agreed, something blasphemous about the ghastly word "dumb" in relation to that lovely creature.

Red Antony leant back in his chair and dug his hands deep in his pockets, so that his white short-front stuck out like the breast-plate of a warrior. He looked bored.

"Favourite trick of hers," he explained morosely. "Always tries to

act as though she wasn't dumb. If you had to live with that silly pretence it would get on your nerves, I can tell you. She does it very well, I admit. Takes a pride in it—making a fool of other people, I call it. On board ship from New York she put it over quite a number of people for a day or two. Lord, it would have got on anyone's nerves, the way she grinned and grinned and

showed her teeth! Why not be honest and say one's dumb and be done with it? Or let me say it! There's no crime in being dumb, especially with a beautiful face like that. But she won't see it, she must smile and flash her teeth—she's got a repertoire of grins that would astonish a movie star; and she's so proud of them that even if she could speak she wouldn't. And sometimes

all that grinning and toothwork gets me so raw that I could put back my head and howl—and she knows it. Sorry I offended you, George. But I'm nervy these days. I'm raw—raw!" He shouted that last word at us with a thump on the table; and raw he looked, with the eyes blazing out of him, and his once huge, once red, once jolly face shrunk to a mockery of itself, with the skin drawn tight across his jaws and hollow in the cheeks.

Tarlyon picked up a liqueur-glass which the thump

had upset. "Sorry about your unhappy marriage, Antony," he said. "But, you know, it takes a Napoleon to marry a beautiful Creole. How did it happen?"

"How?" And Antony laughed; at least he made a noise which was intended to sound like laughter. "How? Because she made it happen—how else? D'you think because she's dumb

[Continued overleaf.]



"Would you mind explaining, Antony," he asked dangerously, "why you chose that infamous way of telling us that your wife was—well, not quite like the rest of us?"

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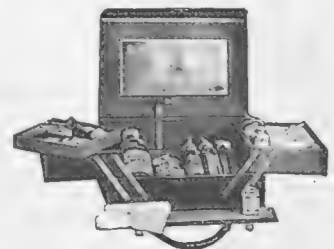
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that she hasn't got more fascination than a thousand women rolled together? Those eyes? Met eyes like that before, George? If hell has a face its eyes will be like that. I *had* to marry her. In Mexico, where I went to after the Armistice. I suppose you fellows remember that I went to Mexico three years before the war. I was in love with the girl who became Roger's wife—inévitable, wasn't it, that the only woman I ever loved should fall to Roger? He didn't do it on purpose, of course—it just happened. So I went to Mexico, to try and do something which Roger could not do before me. Last chance kind of thing, you know—"The rain of words faded out of him. He had moved considerably from the subject of Diavalen, but who could hold a haunted face like that to a subject? I wished I could, for I didn't want him to run amok about Roger; there was something—well, indecent, in talking about a man dead nine years or more as though he were alive and still wanting to "put it across" Antony at every turn. I wished Tarlyon would say something, but he was silent, his fingers fiddling with the stem of his port-glass. Antony was drinking next to nothing; round about his coffee-cup were at least six quarter-smoked cigarettes, and now he began to maul a cigar. I never saw him light that cigar.



"He and his wife somehow couldn't get their particular ways of loving each other to work well together."

"In Mexico," Antony said softly, "I found oil. It was very good oil, as Roger said later, but there wasn't much of it. My luck again! But I made Roger share it this time. You remember how I reappeared in England? Through that window over there, while Roger was giving a big dinner-party, sitting where I'm sitting now. You were here, George. Roger and I made it up before the

lot of you—after a silence of years. Entirely on my side, the quarrel—Roger always loved me. We made it up, you remember, George? I wanted to plant Roger with that oil. Cascan Oil—it sounded like a big thing at the time. That was the last big dinner-party Roger ever gave. He was unhappy at home—some love misunderstanding—and he took to me, Roger did. He went head over heels into that bucket-shop. Of course he soon saw through me and my oil—the man wasn't born who could take Roger in—but he let the company go on. He wanted to see how far I'd go.

Giving me my head, you know. He had packets of money in reserve, and thought he could put the thing right any moment. But he got reckless—watching me and wondering how far I'd go. Roger had always loved me ever since we were children—he never thought of me but as a naughty baby with a bee in my red head about him. I could see all the time he was wondering

(Continued overleaf.)

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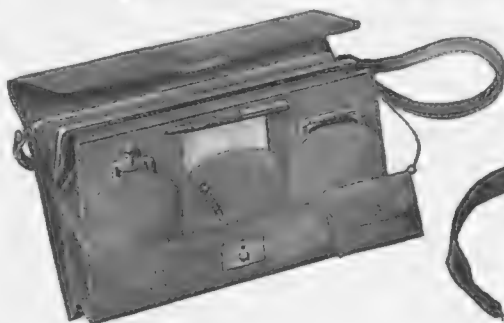
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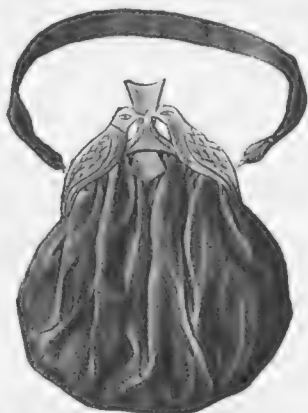
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how far I *dared* go. And he was unhappy at home, poor Roger; he and his wife somehow couldn't get their particular ways of loving each other to work well together. So he had nothing to do but get reckless and chuckle over the naughty baby. I went the limit. The bucket-shop crashed on Roger's head. He tried to pull up, chucked his money in, and other people's, but it wouldn't save it. Clear case of dirty work. A greasy bubble, Cascan Oil. Left a nasty mess when it burst. And all the papers signed in Roger's name. Telephone rang in the next room while we were in here. I was sitting where you are, Trevor. Roger looks at me with a kind of crooked smile. 'Come with me,' he says, and I went. Into that room, the library. Roger didn't trouble to switch on the light; the telephone was on the desk beside the door. The police were after him, said the man on the telephone — the police after Sir Roger Poole, Bart., M.P., and all the rest of it! 'Listen,' says Roger. And I listened while he told me a few things about myself. 'A poor husk of a man,' he called me. 'A graveyard of a brother you are,' he said. 'And the epitaph on your grave will be *Dolor Ira*,' he said, for Roger was a great Latin scholar and could lash out bits of Tacitus as easily as a parson might give you

the Bible. And then he shoots, and I feel death—but he'd shot himself. Roger loved me, you know——"

"And why the hell," Tarlyon blazed out, "did you take this cursed house?"

Antony was quiet, very quiet. He mauled his cigar.

"Because," he said, with a grin, "it just happened that way. It was fate to find it empty — a fine, large house like this at a low rent while all England was yelling for houses. But I might not have taken it if Diavalen had been against it——"

"Oh," said Tarlyon to that.

Antony looked at his wrist-watch, and jumped up in a mighty hurry. "God, the time's gone! Excuse me a moment."

"We will not!" cried Tarlyon, and had his back against the library door almost before you saw him leave the table.

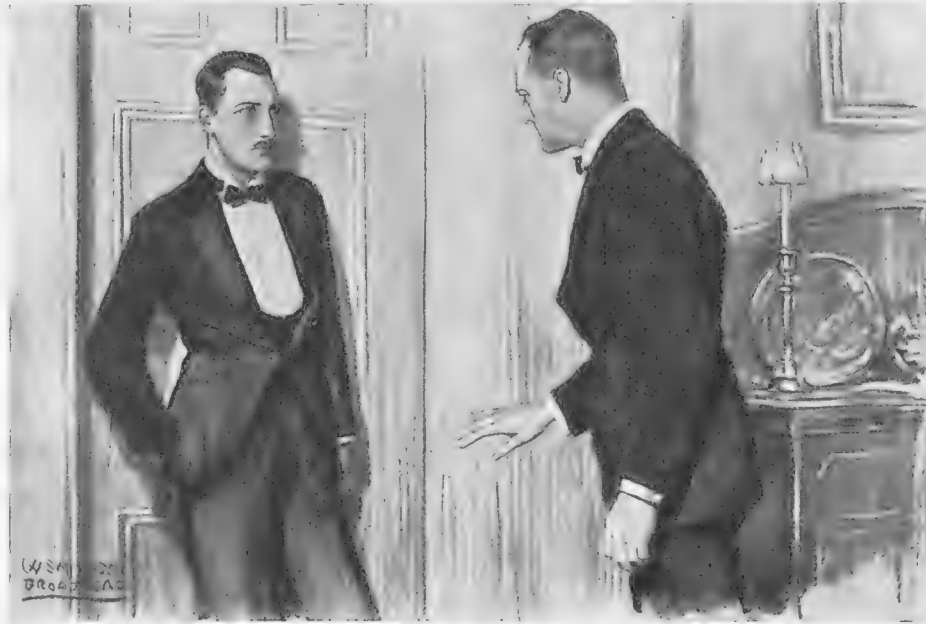
But Antony walked his way to the library door without a word.

"Don't, old Antony, don't," Tarlyon begged.

"Out of my way!" said Antony. He said it as though he was thinking of something else, which was Antony's most dangerous way of saying anything.

Now Tarlyon is six-foot, and broad to match, and there is stuff

(Continued overleaf.)



"We will not!" cried Tarlyon, and had his back against the library door almost before you saw him leave the table.



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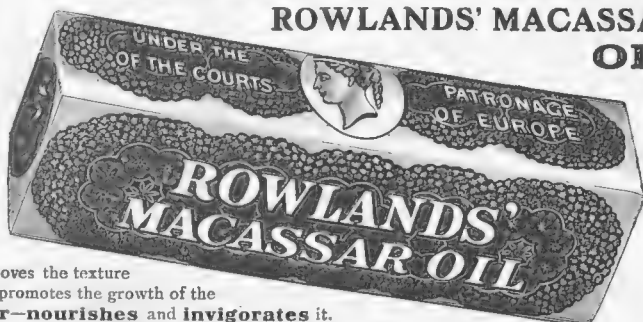
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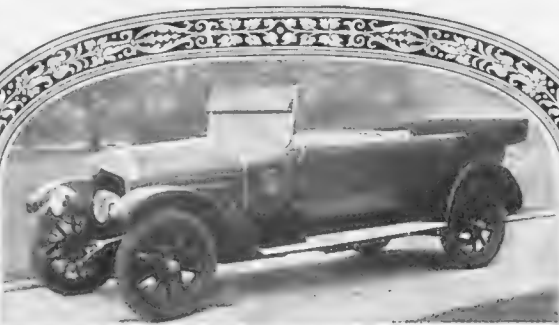
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in his face that will make a man think twice. But Red Antony was a giant, and irresponsible at that. The two of us couldn't have held him from that library door. Tarylon let him pass with a wicked word, and has regretted it ever since. Antony slammed the door behind him, and we heard the twist of the key.

Without a word to me Tarylon was at the French window; opened it, and disappeared. I stayed. I was extremely uncomfortable in that mad-house, you understand. Perhaps two minutes passed, perhaps ten. Where the devil was Tarylon, anyway? And then I heard through the library door the thud of something falling. And then in there a window smashed, a sharp smash. I measured my distance from that door and crashed my shoulder at it, and fell into the library on top of the panel.

"Light," said Tarylon's voice. I switched it on. On the floor between us was a heap of a man face downwards, with the back of a red head half-screwed under an outstretched arm. And there was red on the back of Tarylon's hand where he had put it through the window. We knelt each side of Red Antony, and turned him over.

"Dead," I said.

"Not he!" said Tarylon. "He's fainted—from fright." But he knew as well as I did that Antony was dead—from fright. The huge bulk was as limp as a half-filled sack as we lifted it a little. Antony's eyes were wide open, and they were like the eyes of a child that has just been thrashed.

"He's been shot," I said suddenly.

"There was no noise," said Tarylon, but he looked at me. There had been no noise, but there was the faint, acrid taste of pistol-smoke in the air. It's unmistakable, that faint, acrid smell of a revolver just spent. But Antony had not been shot.

"It wasn't an illusion, then!" Tarylon whispered softly. "That smell . . . of Roger's revolver! And it's killed Antony in the end!"

I stared down at the poor haunted face. And then I heard Tarylon whisper: "My God!" And again: "My God—look at that!" But I did not look. I knew he was staring over my shoulder, and I was afraid to look. I was afraid of what I would see. And then I twisted my head over my shoulder, towards the far end of the room, where there was a little door from the hall. And I saw the thing sitting squat in the corner—the black thing with white teeth flashing in a white face and a gardenia in her hair.

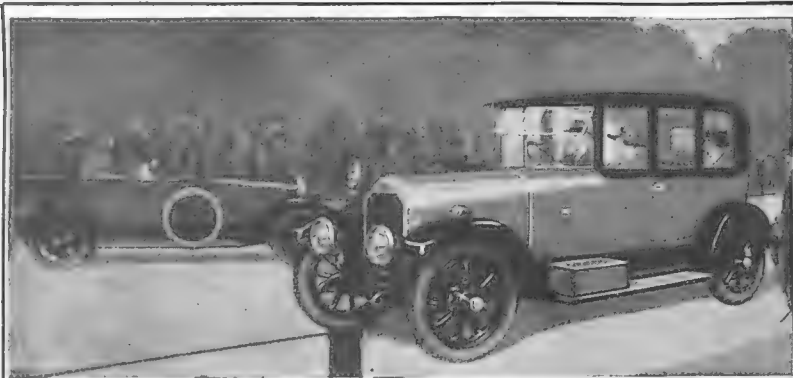
In the palm of one hand was a little golden bowl, and from this bowl floated up a wisp of smoke, just a wisp of smoke against the blackness of her dress, and this was the faint, acrid smell of a spent bullet. And Diavalen was laughing—the dumb woman was laughing

with all the glory of ivory teeth and scarlet lips. . . . We left the thing to its joke. We went out by the window, and did not remember our hats and sticks.

[THE END.]



I measured my distance from that door, and crashed my shoulder at it.



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* The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London (E. C. Moore, Esq.), the Governor of the Bank of England (M. C. Norman, Esq., D.S.O.), the Chairman of the London Regional Committee of the British Hospitals Association (Viscount Hambleden), and the Treasurer of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London (Lord Revelstoke).

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A VERY AWKWARD SITUATION.

By HOLLOWAY HORN.

BOBBY HOLROYD had spent a very cheerful evening, and in order to top it up properly (the phrase is his) he intended calling at Ledbury's flat, which was in the same block as his own.

Richard Ledbury had a much better flat than any bachelor deserves. In addition to being an ornament of the Bar, and an excellent teller of good stories, he possessed a supply of pre-war whisky. As Holroyd reached the second floor of Regent Mansions he had every reason to anticipate a most amusing hour.

His hand was on his friend's knocker when he received one of the greatest shocks of his chequered career. The door was suddenly flung open, and the most beautiful girl he had ever seen precipitated herself into his arms.

His impressions were very vague, but he saw she was wearing a blue silken garment thrown over lace and ribbons which, even in the first moment of his amazement, he knew was her night attire.

She withdrew, however, even more hastily than she had advanced.

"I thought," she stammered, in wild confusion, "I thought——"

"That's all right," said Holroyd helpfully.

"There's a burglar," she gasped. "He's in the kitchen. I'm terrified! What shall I do?"

And then, to his increasing amazement, Holroyd saw that she was carrying a revolver.

"I was calling on Mr. Ledbury," he explained. "I am an old friend——"

"Yes, yes!" she rejoined, interrupting his confused attempt to account for his presence there. "But the burglar—my jewels are in there!"

"He's in the kitchen, you say?" asked Holroyd. "Give me that revolver," he went on. "I'll teach him to be a burglar."

He was feeling very, very brave. Partly it was the result of the cheerful evening, partly the excitement caused by the lovely,

frightened face, the cloud of misty dark hair, and the blue and white. . . .

"It's not loaded," she said.

"Never mind," he answered. "He won't know that. Let me have it; I'll go and root him out. Don't you worry—leave him to me."

She handed him the revolver, and, fortified by the weapon and by the feeling that he was a modern Sir Galahad rescuing a beauteous maiden in distress, Holroyd entered his friend's flat.

He was too excited to dwell upon the extraordinary fact of the lady being there at all. If he had given the matter any thought, he would have known that Ledbury's flat was the last one in London in which such a happening might have been expected.

At the far side of the hall he listened, but no sound reached his ears. He went on to the door which, he knew, led into the kitchen, and flung it open with a loud command to the alleged burglar to hold up his hands.

His words echoed empty.

The light was on in the kitchen, and a glance sufficed to tell him that it was empty. The door on the far side, however, which led to the fire-escape, was open, and to this he crossed. He leaned over the iron railing just in time to see a dark shadow disappearing under the arch of the courtyard.

For a moment he hesitated whether he should follow, but he was very doubtful if he could overtake the burglar. In any case, the distressed lady was very much more attractive than any burglar, so he closed the door and returned to her.

"He's gone," he said. "The door leading to the fire-escape was open. All I can hope is that the jewels have not vanished with him!"

"No," she said; "they were in my bed-room. I am so thankful you were here! I can't say how much obliged I am to you."

"Don't try," he interrupted. "I'm only too pleased to have been of any slight service. I am very sorry that I was unable to capture the chap. I'm rather good at—er—that sort of thing."

(Continued overleaf.)



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This sketch represents a pretty **Beaver-dyed Coney Coat**. The shaped band of self fur round the hips, on which the upper part of the coat is slightly gathered, is distinctly novel. Large, becoming collar and the new wide sleeves. Particularly suitable for young ladies' wear. Lined striped broché to tone. Length 26 inches. **22½ Gns.**

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Jersey Suit with Knickers, trimmed with three lines of contrasting shade. Price for 2 years, rising 3/- a size ...

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Charming Frock in artificial silk, with fancy silk flounce forming scallops round skirt, sleeves and neck, price for 16 ins., rising 2/- every 2 ins. up to 30 ins.

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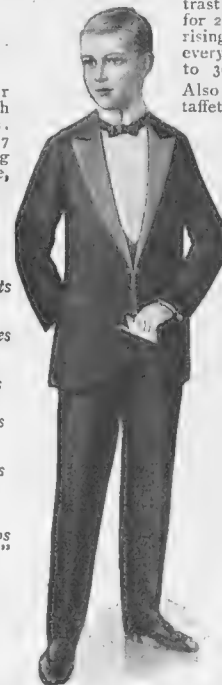
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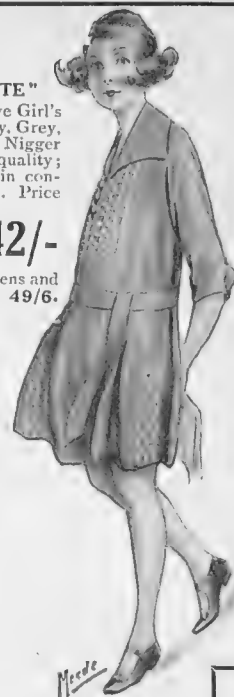


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The Illustrated London News



Christmas
Number 1922

PRICE 2/-

VOL. 101. NOVEMBER, 1922.
Published at 172, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. 2.

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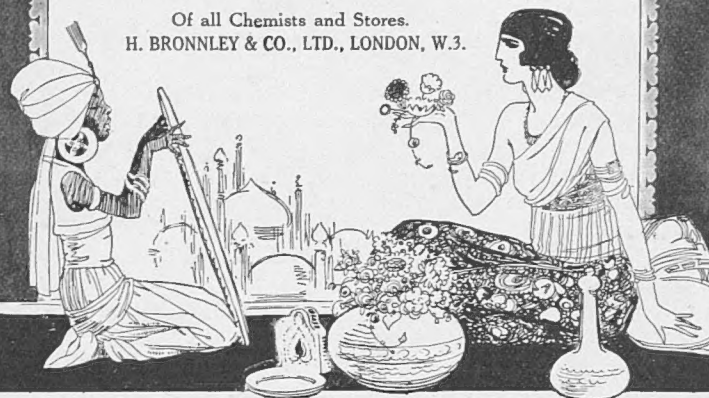
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The lady's name is Mrs. Frederica Hudson, and she will be pleased to convey to you her secret. She suffered for twenty years before the discovery, and desires that all those afflicted should be able to take advantage of her knowledge.

So write to-day. Don't waste your money on any other so-called remedies. Send the coupon below, or a copy of it, giving your name and address, and stating whether Mrs. or Miss. Enclose three penny stamps for postage. Then all instructions will be sent you, and you need never have a trace of superfluous hair again.

FREE COUPON—for immediate use only. To MRS. HUDSON. Please send me free your full information and confidential instructions to banish superfluous hair. I enclose three penny stamps.

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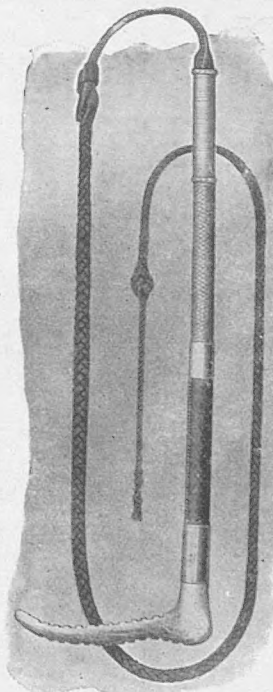
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Continued.]

"I'm sure you are," she said, "and I thank you very much. If my husband were here he would add his thanks to mine."

"Not at all!" Holroyd murmured.

And then, for the first time, he asked himself what she was doing in Ledbury's flat. "My husband," she had said. A puzzled look crossed his face, and he wondered.

Suddenly she became rigid with caution.

"There is my husband!" she exclaimed, in a tense whisper, as the sound of a key in the outer door fell upon their ears.

"I shall be glad to meet him," Holroyd lied.

"But you mustn't!" she said. "He'll think . . . he's the most wildly jealous man . . . whatever shall I do?" She was looking about her in a distracted manner.

"Listen," she said hurriedly. "You've got to be a burglar—give me the revolver."

Dazedly he handed the weapon over to her.

"Hands up!" she called out in peremptory tones. Automatically he raised his hands, and as he did so he heard steps in the entrance-hall.

"Bolt at the first opportunity," she whispered. "Keep your hands up!" she continued in a louder tone. She spoke over Holroyd's head to the person who had entered the hall. "Oh, Jim dear—thank goodness you've come!"

"What's all this?" said a deep voice which was quite strange to Holroyd.

"A burglar!" said the girl. "A dreadful man! I'm terrified!"

"Keep him covered," the same voice replied. "I'll ring up the police."

The situation was developing rather too rapidly for Holroyd to grasp it, but he saw clearly that it was not desirable he should be there when the police came.

The man passed within a yard of Holroyd on his way to the dining-room and Ledbury's telephone. He was a little man, rotund and red-faced—the type of man, in short, who so often marries a radiantly beautiful woman.

Holroyd took him and his possibilities in at a glance.

On the spur of the moment his mind was made up.

With a rush he caught him in the small of the back and propelled him through the open door into what Holroyd had always known as Ledbury's bed-room. The little man continued his way across the room and collapsed upon the bed. Holroyd closed the door and locked it. With the happy smile of a boy he beamed on the girl (who still stood fingering the unloaded revolver) before he darted out of the door and up the stairs to his own flat.

Arrived there, he sat down to think the whole affair out, but after a few minutes he gave it up as hopeless. He was certain it was Ledbury's flat—but who was the girl?

A week later he met Ledbury at the club.

"Hullo, Ledbury!" he said. "I was at your flat the other evening."

"I haven't been there for some days," Ledbury said. "I forgot to tell you that I had let it to my old friend Jennifer and his wife for a few days. By the way, let me introduce you—Holroyd, Jennifer."

Up to that moment he had not recognised the man at Ledbury's side.

Holroyd thought swiftly, with the clearness of a drowning man; he was conscious, too, of the awful sinking feeling.

Should he admit he was the burglar?

It would be even more awkward if he denied he had been in the flat in such a capacity, after what the lady had said. He could feel both horns of the dilemma pricking badly.

The little man looked up at him.

"I seem to remember your face," he said, but with blessed doubt.

"I don't think we've met before," Holroyd lied, with magnificent calm. "You weren't in the Artists' Rifles, by any chance?"

"No," said the little man, greatly flattered, for he would not see fifty again.

After Holroyd had escaped, Jennifer confided in Ledbury that he thought him a very nice young fellow indeed.

But for a long time the "nice young fellow" could feel where the horns had pricked him.

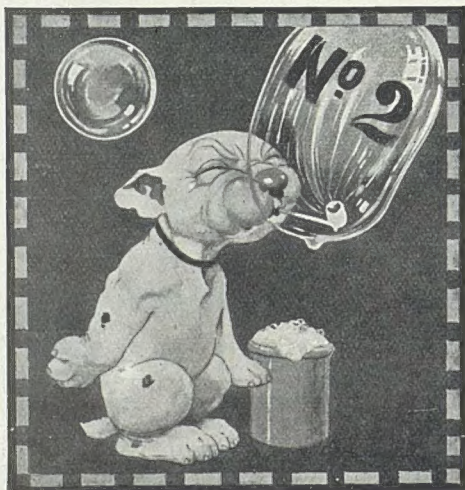
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